GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:954
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2007
PROPOSALS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF AIRPORTS
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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the major cities in the country have been connected with the air services;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether several political organisation and public representatives have requested to the Union Government to construct airports in the States during the last three years, till date;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) and (b): At present, scheduled air services are available to/from 81 airports in the country. Government has laid down route dispersal guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. As such, the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of route dispersal guidelines issued by Government.

(c) to (e): Requests are received from political orgnisations, public representatives, State Governments etc. from time to time for construction of airports. Government has given `in-priciple` approval for international airports at MOPA (Goa) and Navi Mumbai (Maharashtra). New green field airports at Hyderabad and Bangalore are expected to become operational by March, 2008. Some more greenfield airports have been proposed by the concerned State Governments at Jewar near Greater NOIDA (Uttar Pradesh), Kannur (Kerala), Pakyong (Sikkim), Chiethu near Kohima (Nagaland), Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh) and Chakan (Rajguru Nagar)near Pune (Maharashtra).